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25X1A

SUBJECT Rumor Regarding Return of Iraqi
Troops to Palestine

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1. According to informant, it is rumored in Baghdad that elements of the Iraqi Army which have been returned to Iraq recently from Palestine, will be sent back to renew the war against the Israelis.
2. Informant indicated that this rumor is being unfavorably received by the rank and file of the Iraqi Army, some of whom have even indicated that they will refuse to return to Palestine if the order is given.
3. According to informant, this unwillingness to return is not based on any change in the Iraqi Army's marked anti-Semitic attitude, but rather on the feeling that, if they do return, the men will be restrained by their officers and will not be allowed to show their fighting ability.

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment. The above-mentioned rumor is reported in possible connection with a statement made by Foreign Minister Fadhil Jamali in the Iraqi Parliament on 3 May 1949. Concerning the Palestine situation, Jamali stated that "the underestimation of the enemy made us lose the first battle, but the Zionist war is not over; it is a new crusade which will last as long as the Arab pulse beats."

This document is hereby regraded to
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